

**WILLIAMSBURG CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2003**

The Williamsburg City Council held a special meeting on Wednesday, September 17, 2003, at 4:00 p.m., in the Stryker Building.

**ATTENDANCE**

Present were Ms. Zeidler and Messrs. Hall, Haulman, Houghland and Tabb, Mr. Tuttle, City Manager, and Ms. Crist, Clerk of Council. City Attorney Phillips was not present.

Staff Attending: Ms. Miller, Assistant to the City Manager, and Chief Weiler.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Zeidler, who said the purpose of the meeting was to adopt Resolution #03-16, declaring a local emergency in the City of Williamsburg because of the occurrence of Hurricane Isabel. The category three hurricane was expected to reach the Hampton Roads area the next day.

**DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY**

Mr. Tuttle, acting in his capacity as the Director of Emergency Services, explained that the State dictates that the city declare an emergency in order to put the city in a posture to receive assistance from other governments. To do so, City Council needs to take action on the proposed Resolution #03-16.

At the Mayor's request, Chief Weiler updated Council on the status of the hurricane, including its location and intensity, and what the city could expect. The hurricane kept changing in speed and intensity, with severe winds (50-75 mph), and possible rainfall up to ten inches. Tides are expected to be nine feet above high tide, tree roots are weak from all the summer rains, and trees are expected to fall. Power outages are probable, as well as downed utility wires.

Mr. Tuttle reported that the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will open at 8:00 a.m. the following morning and the Human Services Department has people in place to lend assistance to citizens. Information regarding the EOC and emergency messages will be shown on Channel 48 for as long as possible. City staff will begin damage assessment on Friday and information will be gathered to report to FEMA. A debris removal policy will be developed after the hurricane. The city's emergency shelter will be the Recreation Center on Longhill Road. Chief Weiler added that no pets would be allowed at the shelter.

Chief Weiler said that city operations on streets would cease at 50 mph winds because of the danger from the wind speed. Mr. Tuttle reported that the water level in the reservoir has been lowered in order to protect the dam from a surge. He anticipated no problems with keeping the city's water on line.

*Mr. Houghland Moved That City Council Adopt Proposed Resolution #03-16, The Declaration of A Local Emergency. The Motion Was Seconded by Mr. Tabb.  
Recorded Vote on the Motion:*

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*Aye: Haulman, Scruggs, Zeidler, Houghland, Tabb*  
*No: None*

The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Approved: October 9, 2003

Shelia Y. Crist

Jeanne Zeidler